



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **FORMER SCHOOL BAND TEACHER PLEADS GUILTY TO CHILD PORN**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a former band teacher at the Cameron, Mo., high school and middle school pleaded guilty in federal court today to attempting to receive child pornography over the Internet.

**Omer Dale Creech**, 38, of Cape Girardeau, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr., this morning to charges contained in a federal indictment returned on Feb. 26, 2004. **Creech** was formerly the high school and middle school band teacher for the Cameron School District. Prior to that, **Creech** was a teacher at the Senath-Hornersville Senior High School in Senath, Mo.

**Creech** admitted that he operated the KazAa file-sharing program on his home computer between Dec. 8, 2002, and March 25, 2003. The KazAa program, Graves explained, allows users to obtain images over the Internet from other users of the program by using keywords to search for image files. **Creech** sent out keywords he knew would retrieve visual depictions of actual minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Using the KazAa program, Graves said, **Creech** obtained thousands of images of child pornography. Some of the images were of children under the age of 12, and some of the images depicted the children in sadomasochistic scenes, or in scenes involving bondage or other types of violence. **Creech** admitted to downloading both still images and video clips of child pornography.

“In addition to downloading child pornography, which he has admitted,” Graves added, “we believe the evidence proves beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant attempted to distribute child pornography as well. We will urge the court to consider this relevant conduct at the sentencing hearing, and will be arguing for a tougher sentence that will hold him accountable for his actions.”

By pleading guilty today, **Creech** also agreed to forfeit to the government any matter containing child pornography as well as the Compaq Presario 5000 computer that was used to commit the violation.

Under federal statutes, **Creech** could be subject to a sentence of up to 15 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. His sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Katharine Fincham. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Cameron, Mo., Police Department.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)